

Message Text

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PAGE 01 EC BRU 00528 191619Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-07 FTC-01 AID-05
CEA-01 CIAE-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02
STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /063 W
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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2799
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 0528

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EEC, ETRD, EIND, FR
SUBJECT: FRENCH LABELING LAW

REF: (A) 76 STATE 281586, (B) 76 STATE 313654, (C) 76 PARIS
30617, (D) 76 PARIS 34697

1. ACCORDING TO EC OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR INTERNAL MARKET AFFAIRS, THE EC COMMISSION LAST WEEK SENT A LETTER TO THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER SUBJECT LABELING LAW (REFTELS). THE LETTER REPORTEDLY URGED A FLEXIBLE AND LIBERAL INTERPRETATION OF THE LABELING REGULATION TO PREVENT IT FROM BECOMING A NON-TARIFF BARRIER TO TRADE. THE EC LETTER POINTED OUT IN PARTICULAR THAT THE LAW SHOULD NOT BE APPLIED TO WHOLESALERS WHO ARE USUALLY FAMILIAR WITH ENGLISH OR GERMAN LABELING AND ARE OFTEN SEVERAL MARKETING STEPS AWAY FROM THE INDIVIDUAL CONSUMER WHOSE PROTECTION IS THE STATED OBJECT OF THE LAW.

COMMISSION OFFICIALS ALSO TOLD THE MISSION THEY WERE READY TO ACT PROMPTLY IF ANY MEMBER STATE COMPLAINED THAT THESE REQUIREMENTS
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WERE IN FACT A TRADE BARRIER. UNDER ARTICLE 169 OF THE EEC TREATY THE COMMISSION HAS AUTHORITY TO TAKE THE MATTER TO THE EUROPEAN COURT OF JUSTICE IF THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT DOES NOT COMPLY WITH THE OPINION HANDED DOWN BY THE COMMISSION ON SUCH A COMPLAINT.HINTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABELING, LAW, TEXTILE INDUSTRY, EXPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770138/aaaabhdh.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: f6f1a2d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Subject: FRENCH LABELING LAW
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